

benefits or protecting the Point Reyes seashore, he was unmatched in knowing how to make the inter- and intra-party contacts that led to success.

His return to the state Legislature in 1988 was welcomed by Democrats and Republicans alike, because all recognized that here was a consummate politician who knew how to make policy happen and who spoke with a candor and frankness unmatched in Sacramento or in Washington. Mark Shields, one of our most respected political observers, recently wrote a wonderful column about John Burton's election as Senate President that every member of the House deserves to read. Those who knew John here will immediately recognize him; those who did not have that pleasure will instantly know him.

A CALIFORNIA COMEBACK
(By Mark Shields)

SACRAMENTO, CALIF.—You may already have heard the joyless laughter that follows the line: George Washington was the president who could never tell a lie; Richard Nixon was the president who could never tell the truth; and Bill Clinton is the president who cannot tell the difference.

Well here in California's capital city, the second most powerful position in state government—that of president pro tempore of the State Senate—has just been won in a 32 to 0 vote by a blunt, profane, quick-tempered and unreconstructed liberal Democrat from San Francisco who was elected to the State Assembly in 1964, to the U.S. House in 1974 and who, in 1982, left Congress to seek treatment for cocaine and alcohol addiction.

What makes John Burton so appealing in today's politics of slippery hedging and too-clever evasiveness is the man's barefaced candor. U.S. Rep. James Rogan, R-Calif., who served with and voted against Burton in the California Assembly, confesses: "John Burton is just a man of incredible integrity. . . . I love him because he is the most honest liberal I've ever known. He really feels, he really bleeds, for the underprivileged."

Rogan remembered the night in the Assembly when Burton single-handedly stopped a Republican-backed bill to criminalize the use of cocaine by pregnant women. Burton spoke in stark terms of his own addiction, of the advantages he had as a professional and a member of Congress for treatment at Bethesda and Walter Reed.

He told of the daily battle the recovering addict must wage against the demons and of how much more lonely and terrifying it is for the poor addict: "You don't kick it until you die. You have two choices. Either you die clean or you die dirty."

As John Jacobs wrote in "A Rage for Justice," his truly masterful biography of John Burton's late brother, Phil, who was arguably the most influential member of Congress ever from California, "Somewhere in his (John's) mind, he seized on the image of his teenage daughter, Kim, and the thought of her gave him the strength to begin his long, painful recovery. Kim gave him back his life. He gave Kim back her father."

John Burton, who has been both clean and sober for 15 years now, won back his State Assembly seat in 1988 with the strong backing of his friend of 40 years, now San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown. He was elected to the Senate in 1996. Happily, he has not melted. His language could still make a long-shoreman blush. His ability to employ forms of a single four letter word as verb, noun, adjective, gerund, participle, prefix, suffix and even infix is truly remarkable. He does not delete expletives.

Pleased, almost humbled, by the confidence of his colleagues, Burton questions

what all the praise about his integrity and the keeping of his word says about the state of politics today. "When I grew up, all you had was your word. It was a given that you never went back on your word. It should be that way."

In an era of carefully crafted non-responses released by elected officeholders who echo the findings of focus groups and then deploy spin doctors, Burton is refreshing. Another old adversary and good friend, former GOP State Senate Leader Bill Campbell, explains that appeal: "Johnny Burton has great credibility because you and everyone else knows where he stands."

Where Burton stands politically is where he has always stood. His politics is personal, liberal and decidedly untrendy. He continually embraces the poor, workers, the stranger, the despised—all of those living on the outskirts of hope. Burton fights to prevent the rich from getting too greedy, and to make sure that the poor and middle class enjoy more economic security and receive their share of this society's wealth.

"I don't get this 'New Democrat' b— s—," rails Burton. "There are only so many ways you can feed hungry people, or get jobs for people who don't have them, and get kids a good education."

When he took the oath of office as Senate President Pro Tempore, John Burton thanked his daughter and quoted the words of American composer Jerome Kern:

Nothing's impossible I have found,
for when you find yourself on the ground
you pick yourself up, dust yourself off,
and start all over again."

Whoever said there are no second acts in American life never met John Burton.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT JOHN
FRANCIS KRUG

HON. VIC FAZIO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 1998

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, Congress is assisted in its duties by many men and women without whom we could not do our work effectively. From time to time, an opportunity arises for us to pay tribute to one of those people, and today presents such an opportunity.

After twenty-five and one-half years of faithful service to the United States Congress and more than 30 years dedicated to law enforcement, Sergeant John Francis Krug is retiring on April 3rd. He began his law enforcement career as a fingerprint technician for the Federal Bureau of Investigation in 1967 and became a member of the United States Capitol Police on October 16, 1972.

During his tenure with the Capitol Police, John Krug has served in many capacities. His initial assignments included patrolling the House office buildings and the Capitol. In 1984, to better utilize his experience, he was reassigned to Protective Services where he provided personal protection for individual Members of Congress. In 1987, John was promoted to the rank of sergeant and, once again, served as an integral member of the Capitol Division, ensuring the safety of Congress, staff, and the millions of tourists who visit the Capitol each year.

Most recently, he supervised the Department's Special Events Unit. In this position, he became the central information point for nu-

merous events such as demonstrations, inaugurations, joint meetings of Congress, displays, ceremonies and concerts that took place within the perimeters of the Capitol complex. He assisted in coordinating security for visiting U.S. Government Officials and foreign dignitaries, from the President of the United States to King Hussein of Jordan. Most Capitol Police officers and congressional offices have sought out the Special Events Unit, and Sergeant Krug in particular, for his assistance or advice regarding a congressional event.

I am sure that I speak for all our colleagues when I wish Sergeant Krug our best in the years ahead, and thank him for his many years of dedicated service to the United States Congress.

REFLECTIONS ON EASTER AND
SPRING

HON. JENNIFER DUNN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 1998

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Honorable Peter Tali Coleman, a great American who passed from us on April 28, 1997. A four-term chief executive of American Samoa, Peter Coleman is the only person in American history whose service as governor, from the 1950s to the 1990s, has spanned five decades.

After World War II service as an army officer in the Pacific, for which he later was honored by selection to the army infantry hall of fame at Ft. Benning, Georgia, Governor Coleman's civilian career as a public servant began in 1946 on the staff of The Honorable George Bender, a member of this body from Ohio. He later also served as a member of our Capitol Police Force, all while raising a family and completing both an undergraduate and a law degree in just five years from Georgetown University.

Mr. Speaker, upon his return to American Samoa as the first Samoan ever to gain a law degree, he quickly rose from public defender to attorney general until his appointment in 1956 by President Eisenhower as the first native-born governor of American Samoa. He went on to be chief executive of the Marshall Islands and Northern Mariana Islands, and deputy high commissioner of the old Trust Territory of the Pacific before returning home in 1977 to become America Samoa's first elected governor, a post to which he would be elected twice more before retiring in 1993.

Governor Coleman, a true trailblazer in the Pacific Islands and a man of many firsts during more than half a century of service to his nation and his own people, has been paid tribute by the current governor, Tauese P. Sunia, who has launched a drive to establish a permanent lectureship on Pacific Public Policy at Georgetown in Governor Coleman's name.

However, of all his honors and achievements, Mr. Speaker, Governor Coleman was proudest of his family, which at his death included his lovely wife Nora, 12 of their 13 children, 22 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. As he departed the hospital last year to return home for what he knew would be his final battle, he penned a touching farewell letter to his people which he called "Reflections on Easter and Spring."

With spring having come to our capital and with Easter upon us, I would like to make part of our RECORD Governor Coleman's Essay of April 5, 1997, "Reflections on Easter and Spring."

REFLECTIONS ON EASTER AND SPRING

(By Peter Tali Coleman)

Yesterday I came home to our family residence here in Hawaii after a stay at Queen's Hospital over the Easter holidays. While it's never fun to be in the hospital, this Easter was memorable because all our family gathered to be here with Nora and me in a big family lounge that the hospital set aside for us.

As I said the grace before we began our Easter meal, I could not help but think of the meaning of Easter and Spring, since the first day of Spring this year came only a few days before Palm Sunday, the traditional beginning of our Easter season after the long winter Lent.

Spring and Easter are about the renewal of life and new beginnings. Our Lord perished on the Cross for our sins, but was resurrected to give all of us hope for the future and a better life in eternity. So, too, does Mother nature awaken each Spring to begin a new cycle of life and growth. On the Mainland, the last of the snow melts away, the flowers begin to bloom and land is green again. Here in the Pacific where it's always green, the life-sustaining rains give way to the drier and warmer times of spring and summer and we go about all the chores we had put aside until better weather.

I could not help but think of family in the same way I think of Spring and Easter when I saw all of our family members on Easter, especially the little grandchildren and great grandchildren, great nieces and nephews, all with their wide eyes of expectation and excitement with Easter eggs and candy and Easter baskets, and bunnies and chicks and all the joys and traditions that go with a holiday which brings families together everywhere in the Christian world.

The presence of the little children is God's way of bringing renewal and new beginnings to our families. When we look out and see those bright and shining faces, eager to learn about the world around them and beyond, we can take comfort in knowing that this world will be in good hands when their generation takes over. We can find peace in knowing that when our own time comes to join our Lord, if we have done our job on earth, we will have our families to carry on and through them we will continue to live, for our very blood flows through their veins and their children's veins in a cycle which forever will renew itself.

My own life has been dedicated to service to the people and devotion to my family. Although my days of public service now have come to a close, the Samoan people and all the peoples of the Pacific Islands I have been privileged to know in my work and travels remain in my thoughts as a new generation of leaders and servants seeks to find a true path to renewal and new beginnings for our strong but fragile societies and cultures at the dawn of a new century and a new millennium.

God has allowed me to see so much dramatic change through the course of this century. As amazing as it seems, the Samoa of my youth no doubt much more resembled the Samoa of most of the millennium which preceded it than it does the Samoa of today, which is poised to enter the 21st century. The pace of change in this century about to close has been dramatic. As a child in Samoa after World War I, I could not begin to comprehend or imagine the things we take for granted today, from modern medicine to

computers to the Hubble Space Telescope. Nor can I begin to imagine now what the next century will bring.

Whether I will be here to witness the beginning of the next millennium and new beginnings it will prompt is in God's hands. But wherever I may be and whatever advances science and industry may bring, I know that the futures will be bright if we remain true to our values. Those values are love of God, devotion to family, protection of culture, and courtesy and respect towards one another.

For myself, it counts little what I may have achieved here on earth in 55 years of government service through war and peace. My failures were my own and my successes were the result of all the good colleagues and friends around me. But, for all of us, no matter what our calling in life, our truest legacies are the families which are asked to carry on when we are gone.

So, while my days in public service may be finished, I have come home now to be with my family. They bring me joy and inspiration as I think about the future. They are all here now and I take great comfort in their presence. They have come to be with Nora and me from near and far: from the Mainland to Saipan to our beloved Samoa. And because they are so scattered, I have agreed to a consensus of my family's wishes that I should lie in rest in Hawaii. But in so doing, they have assented to my wish that when the last of my children's children shall have joined me in heaven, that my final resting place shall be in the soil of my birth.

For now, when I think of spring and think of Easter, I thank God I have been given one more opportunity to reflect on life's renewal and new beginnings, and the love of family which bursts forth like the flowers of Spring. As the Easter season now ends and we move about in our Spring tasks, may God bless you and your families, too.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF SHORTER COLLEGE

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 1998

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, in Rome Georgia stands a small liberal arts college that lives up to the true tradition of educational excellence: love of family, and love of God, combined with a commitment to community values and an educational experience that is everlasting.

The school that I speak of is Shorter College, now celebrating its 125th Anniversary. Mr. Speaker this is a critical period in American history; time when the value of morals, faith in God, and a sound education can no longer be taken for granted but are more important than ever.

Through this period of moral decline, Shorter has remained true to the values of its founder, Rome Baptist Church Pastor Luther Rice Gwaltney.

I am not alone in recognizing the excellence of Shorter College. For the second year in a row, Shorter has been listed in the "Student Guide to America's 100 Best College Buys." Moreover, Shorter is a member of the National Association of Schools of Music. The devotion of Shorter to the teaching of music cannot be overstated. Today, many more children rush home from school to play on their computers than on their pianos. Yet, the language of

music is universal and can be found in every nation around the world and bears a direct relationship to the progress of its culture.

In honor of Pastor Gwaltney and Alfred and Martha Shorter for whom the college is named, I congratulate Shorter on its first 125 years and wish it many many more.

ETHICS REFORM

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 1998

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, April 1, 1998 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

HOUSE ETHICS REFORM

Many Americans believe that Members of Congress have low ethics standards and that the overall level of ethics and honesty in politics has been falling over the years. Although most observers of Congress would say the opposite, the public remains unconvinced and broadly dissatisfied with ethics standards of Members.

Congressional ethics is one area where I have seen a great amount of changes since I have been in Congress. I've seen periods of enormous progress, but also, in recent years, have seen the entire process bog down in intense partisanship. Clearly we need to give greater attention to improving House ethics.

HISTORY OF HOUSE ETHICS

The House has the responsibility under the Constitution to police its membership, as Article I authorizes each house of Congress to "punish its Members for disorderly behavior and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a Member". This is an important responsibility because our system of representative democracy depends upon the confidence of the people in the integrity of their elected representatives.

The first disciplinary action against a Member was in 1798, when a vote to expel a Member for spitting on another narrowly failed. From then until the late 1960s, when the House became more active in ethics reform, the House took disciplinary action against Members only about thirty times, with the offenses ranging from dueling and treason to inserting obscene material into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Typically the House acted only on the most obvious cases of official wrongdoing, leaving many other transgressions up to the voters to weigh at election time.

When I came to Congress in 1965 there was no House ethics committee and no written code of conduct for Members. Members could accept any gift given by special interests, receive large sums of money at "testimonial dinners", and convert campaign funds to personal use. Members were rarely punished for personal corruption, and it was common for lobbyists to walk around Congress with envelopes of cash in their pockets to hand out to lawmakers. All that changed beginning in the late 1960s, when, prompted by a series of embarrassing scandals, the House created an ethics committee (the Standards of Official Conduct Committee), set up a tough Code of Conduct for Members, and began policing its membership in a more rigorous manner. The Code set up at that time is essentially the one we have today. I was pleased to have been involved in those efforts to improve House ethics.

Yet in recent years the system has fallen on harder times. Starting in the late 1980s,